

**Attorney's Docket No. RA-5425
Amendment**

**Serial No. 10/028,152
August 2, 2005**

In the Claims:

It is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a Visual Basic program comprising[.];

capturing data from an EXCEL® spreadsheet program data file, wherein said data is organized by lines, and wherein a set of lines contains all information needed for producing a single signal line or a header/format line, and wherein there is a multiplicity of sets of lines in a said EXCEL® spreadsheet program data file, said capturing including, for each set of lines of said data file information unique to a particular signal line intended to be displayed, capturing, from said EXCEL® spreadsheet program data file by communication of a VISUAL BASIC® procedure within said VISUAL BASIC® program with said EXCEL® spreadsheet program, said data file information[.];

interpreting in said VISUAL BASIC® procedure said data file information from said set of lines in accord with a command from within said set of lines[.];

preparing said data file information in accord with said command in said VISUAL BASIC® procedure to instruct an instance of a VISIO® program to draw a signal line or a header/format line in accord with said command from within said set of lines[.];

operating an instance of a VISIO® program to provide a display file containing each said particular signal line and header/format line in accord with said captured data interpreted through said command from within said set of lines pertaining to each said signal line or header/format line by;

sending to said instance of ~~Visie~~ VISIO® a command and data parameters corresponding with each said set of lines together with said command for each said set of lines so that said instance of VISIO® can produce a .vsd file containing sufficient information for VISIO® to print or display a timing chart having each signal line and header/format line incorporated therein.

2. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein said sets of lines of said data file are read in order from one end of the data file to the opposite end of said data file.

**Attorney's Docket No. RA-5425
Amendment**

**Serial No. 10/028,152
August 2, 2005**

3. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 2 wherein the one end is a top and the opposite end is a bottom as said data file may be displayed by using EXCEL®.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a control program for drawing a timing chart from a spreadsheet data file accessible through ~~an independently operable a~~ spreadsheet program employing ~~an independently operable a~~ drawing program, wherein the spreadsheet program and drawing program are each capable of executing apart from one another, the method comprising, upon initiation of said control program[:];
 - said control program captures data from said spreadsheet data file[:];
 - said control program sends commands based on said captured data to said drawing program, wherein said captured data contains commands for each line of a timing chart[:];
 - said control program interprets said commands for identifying drawing actions to be accomplished by said drawing program and wherein said control program commands said drawing program in conformity with said commands.

5. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 4 further comprising;
 - said step of capturing data from said spreadsheet file is executed by requesting each line of data from said spreadsheet file via said independently operable spreadsheet program which is actively running.

6. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 4 further comprising;
 - in said step of said control program commanding said drawing program in conformity with said commands, said drawing program produces a display modified by commands.

7. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 5 wherein a user initiates use of said control program and supplies the spreadsheet data file name to said control program to enable said control program to access said spreadsheet data via said file name from said

**Attorney's Docket No. RA-5425
Amendment**

**Serial No. 10/028,152
August 2, 2005**

independently operable spreadsheet program.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein a user prior to initiating use of said control program populates said spreadsheet data file having said spreadsheet data file name with timing chart data using said independently operable spreadsheet program, independently from said control program.

9. (Previously Amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein said step of populating said spreadsheet data file having said spreadsheet data file name is accomplished in part using a graphic user interface operating on said independently operable spreadsheet program.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for drawing a timing chart based upon data and commands in a spreadsheet data file comprising:

a software program containing a procedure for capturing data and commands from said spreadsheet data file, using an ~~independently operable~~ a spreadsheet program to access said spreadsheet data file, said software program including a set of subroutines for interpreting said commands and a subroutine for sending said interpreted commands to an ~~independently operable~~ a drawing program together with any associated datums within said data file.

11. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said software program is written in VISUAL BASIC®.

12. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said VISUAL BASIC® program subroutine for capturing said data and commands from said spreadsheet data file comprises a routine for requesting a row of data from said independently operable spreadsheet program.

13. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said routine for requesting a row of data via said independently operable spreadsheet program to obtain

**Attorney's Docket No. RA-5425
Amendment**

**Serial No. 10/028,152
August 2, 2005**

said row of data from said spreadsheet data file contains a command that can be submitted to and is interpretable by EXCEL®.

14. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said subroutine for sending said interpreted commands to a drawing program together with any associated datums within said data contains a command interpretable by VISIO®

15. (Previously Amended) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said subroutine for sending said interpreted commands to a drawing program together with any associated datums within said data contains a command interpretable by VISIO® .

16. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said apparatus comprises electronic signals within a computer memory.

17. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in Claim 16 wherein said computer memory is a transportable disk.